Text Convert

Lesley Kennemur,
Team IADS

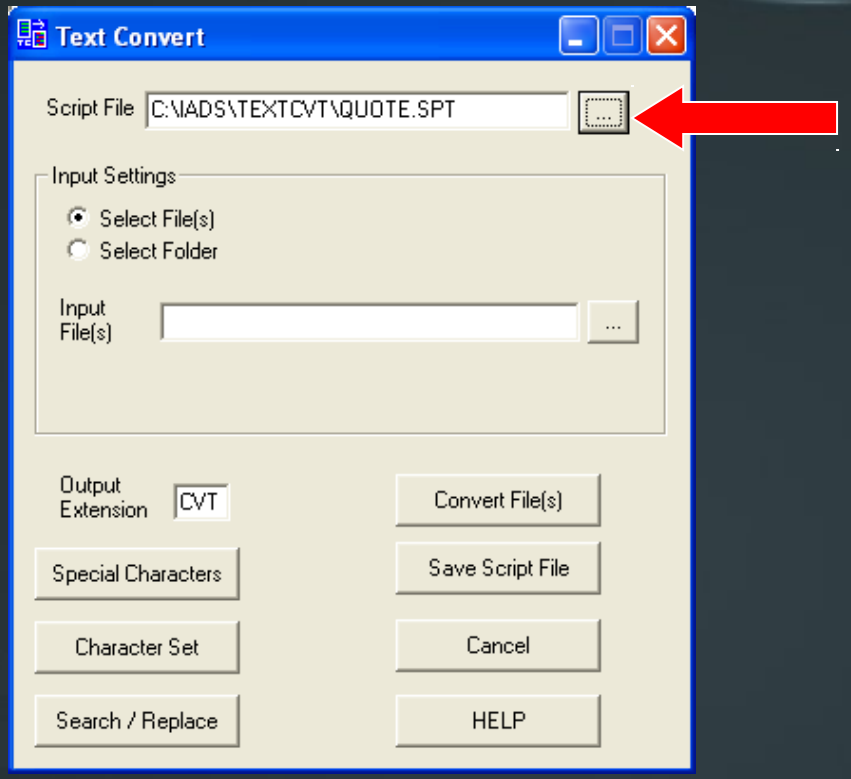
About Text Convert

Text Convert is a text manipulation program that performs multiple search and replace operations on a set of files. A script file is read that contains a list of patterns and corresponding actions to invoke when a pattern is encountered. Multiple data files may be read and the script file applied against all of them during the same execution. The results are written out to separate files so that the original data files are not modified.

Script File

Text Convert reads a Script File to recognize actions to take on a file. Text Convert stores Special Characters, Character Sets, and Search and Replace patterns in Script Files.

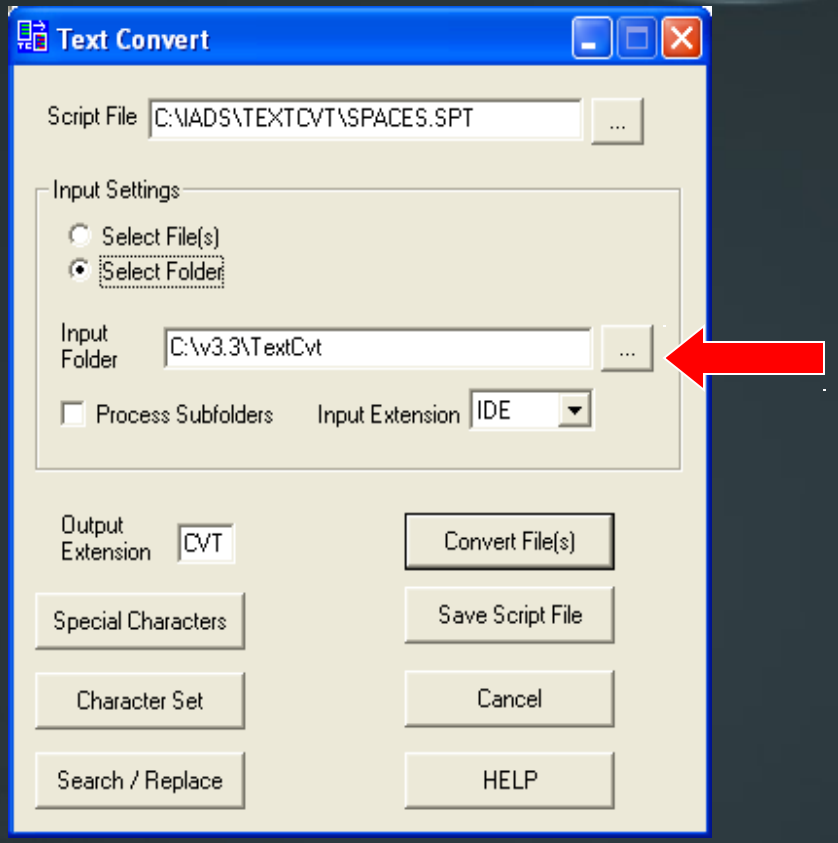
- To select a Script File, press the ellipse button and browse for a script file.



Input Settings

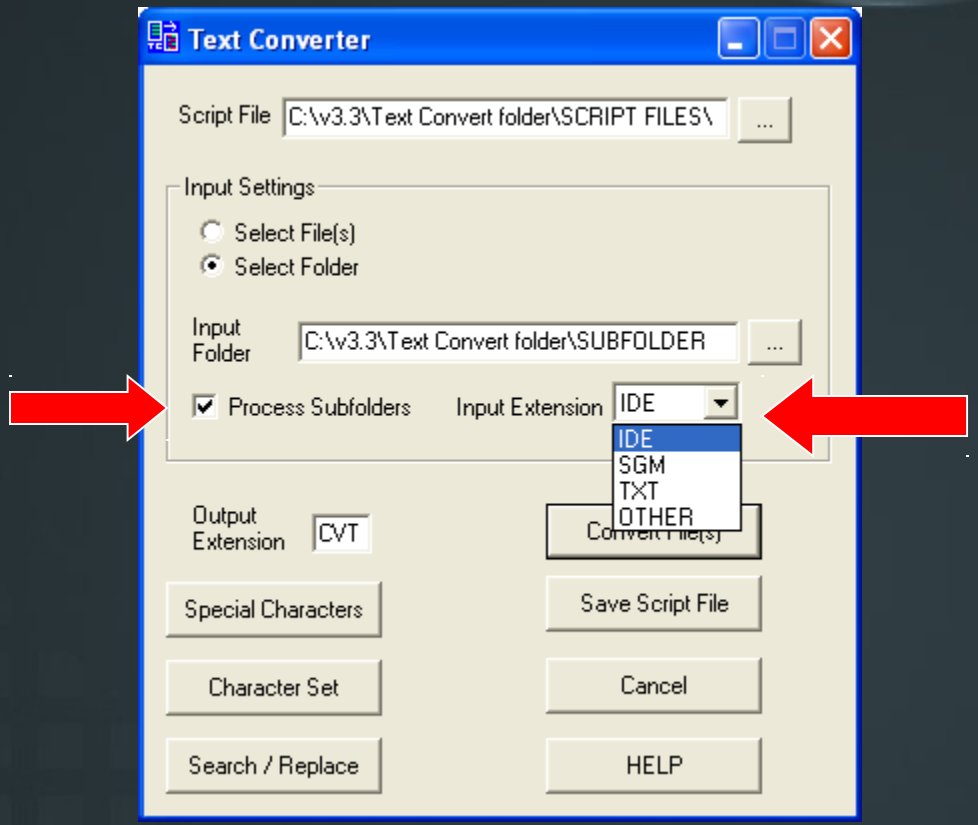
The Input Settings group contains a selection for File(s) or Folder, a way to browse for an Input Folder, a list to choose an Input Extension, and a checkbox that will process Subfolders.

- Select File(s) or Select Folder to select the Input File or Input Folder.
- Input Folder - Enter the Input Folder name or use the (...) button to browse for an Input File or Input Folder.



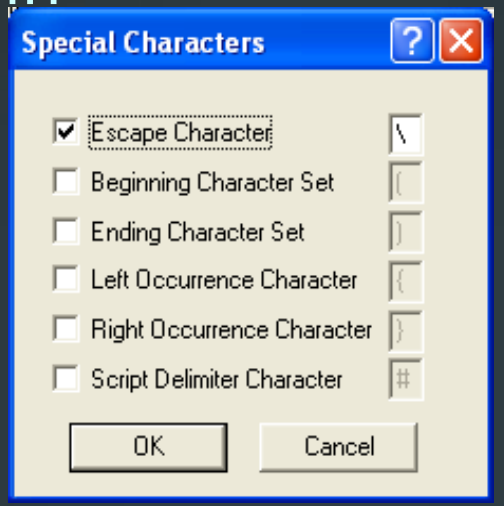
Input Settings

- Input Extension has four different extensions available for selection. If Other is selected, a text box will appear to the right so an extension can be entered.
- Process Subfolders checkbox can be selected so any subfolders will also be included.



Special Characters

Pressing the Special Characters dialog button defines specific characters that will be used for Character Set Definitions and Search and Replace functions. They serve as a guideline for the way text is found in the Input File.

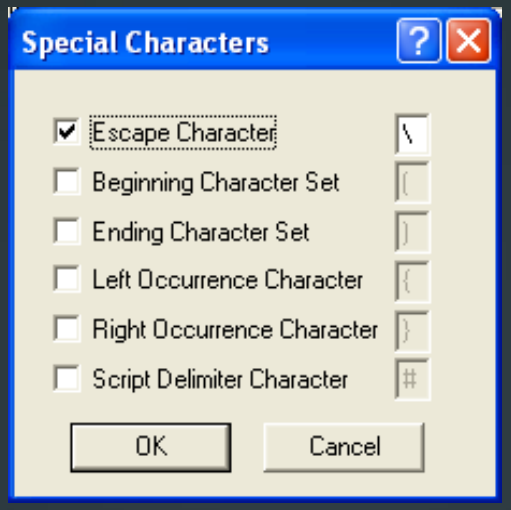


- Escape Character – the default character is a backslash.

- Beginning Character – the default character is an open parenthesis.

Special Characters

- Ending Character – the default character is a closing parenthesis.
- Left Occurrence Character – the default character is an opening curly bracket.
- Right Occurrence Character – the default character is a closing curly bracket.
- Script Delimiter Character – the default character is a pound sign.

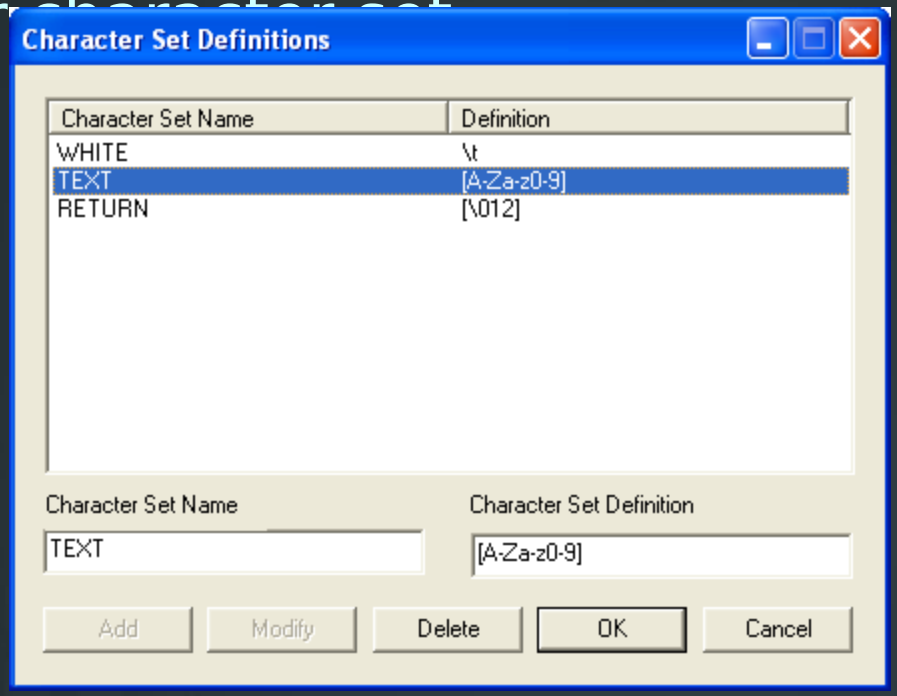


Character Set

Pressing the Character Set dialog button defines common names for character set definitions.

- The Character Set Name text box stores characters that will be defined and used in the Script File.

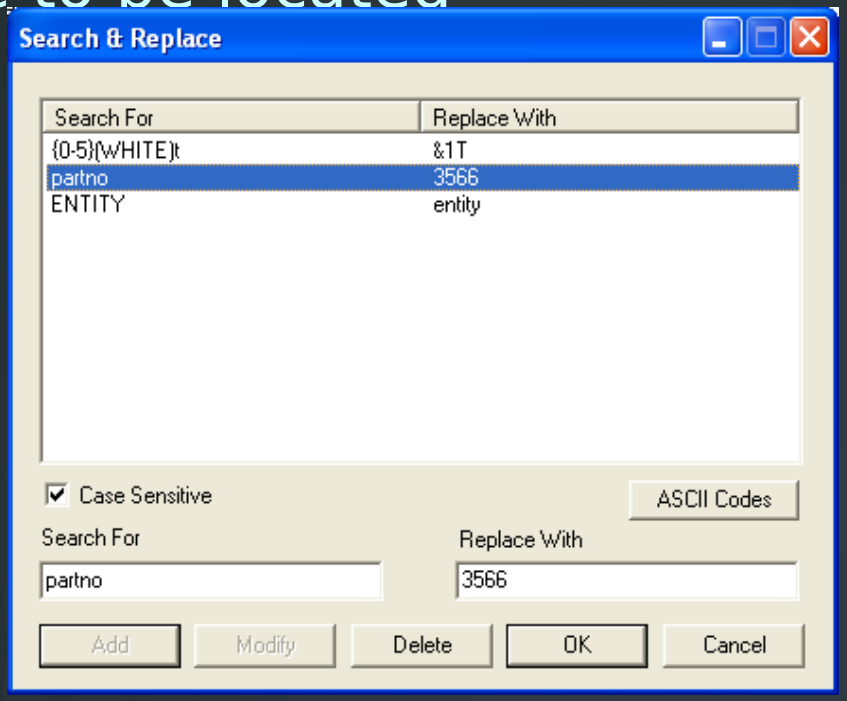
- The Character Set Definition text box holds the actual definition for the Character Set Name.



Search & Replace

Search & Replace is a tool that allows patterns within an Input File to be located and replaced.

- Search For text box - enter value to be searched for in the Input File.
- Replace With text box – enter value to replace the Search For value.



Enhancements

Text Convert Version 3.3 is currently undergoing enhancements for improved appearance and usability. The improvements include but are not limited to:

- Create a Converted File button on the Text Convert interface. This will allow quick access to the Converted File.
- Improve the look of the Text Convert interface by rearranging command buttons into tabs.